Amendments to the Specification

Please make the following amendments to the specification. Changes relative to the immediate prior version are shown using strikethrough to identify deleted material and underlining to identify added material.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5 (i.e., page 4, line 21 to page 5, line 10) with the following amended paragraph:

-- In an effort to overcome these disadvantages, a method for measuring malaria parasite using ~~a~~ flow cytometry has been developed. In this method, malaria parasite is stained with a nucleic acid-staining dye and then measured by a flow cytometer. This method mostly involves automatic measurement and involves extremely low error as compared to microscopic examination. It is also rapid and convenient since measurement times are on the order of tens of seconds to several minutes and a large number of specimens may be handled at once (for example, see J.M. Whaum et al., *Cytometry*, **1983**, *4*, 117; J.W. Jacobberger, *Cytometry*, **1984**, *5*, 589; J.D. Hare, *J. Histochem. Cytochem.*, **1986**, *34*, (2) 215; and A. E. Bianco et al., *Experi. Parasitol.*, **1986**, *62*, 275). --

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 5 (i.e., lines 11-17) with the following amended paragraph:

-- Nevertheless, the position corresponding to the appearance of malaria-infected erythrocyte may sometimes overlap with reticulocyte on the scattergram, thereby ~~resulting~~ complicating the measurement of malaria-infected erythrocyte, which leads to measurement error as well as to a reduction in measurement sensitivity. --

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 (i.e., page 11, line 24 to page 12, line 6) with the following amended paragraph:

-- Preferably, a nonionic surfactant for use in accordance with the present invention is ~~a~~ polyoxyethylene-based and represented by a formula

$$R_1\text{-}R_2\text{-}(CH_2CH_2O)_n\text{-}H,$$

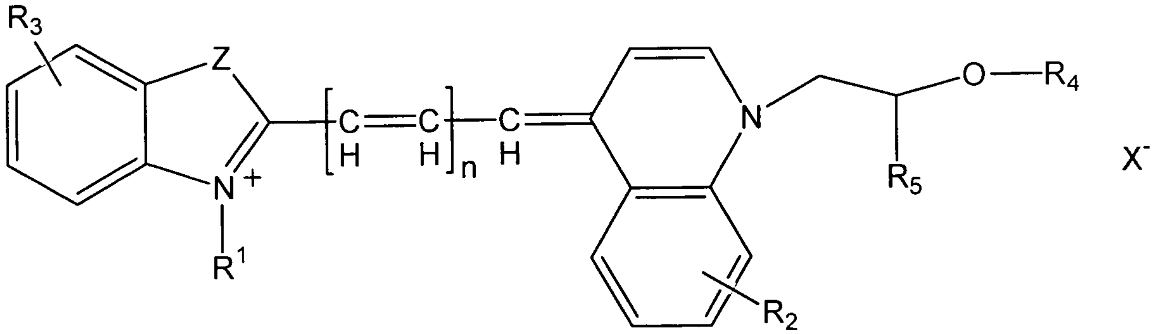
wherein R_1 represents an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group having 10 to 22 carbon atoms, R_2 represents -O-, -(C_6H_4)-O- or -COO-, and n represents an integer from 8 to 120. --

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 17 (i.e., lines 8-17) with the following amended paragraph:

-- The treatment with a first hemolytic agent should be done so that sufficient accuracy can be achieved in the subsequent quantitative measurement by flow cytometry. For example, the reaction temperature is about 20 to about 50°C, with the reaction time being suitably between about 5 and about 300 seconds. While accuracy is generally higher when the hemolytic reaction is completed, it is not necessary that the reaction ~~is not necessarily complete~~ be completed provided that the resultant accuracy is within an acceptable range. --

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 19 and 20 (i.e., page 19, line 21 to page 20, line 10) with the following amended paragraph:

-- When using light of other ~~wavelength~~ wavelengths, such as a red color laser, a dye capable of being used therewith is preferably employed. An example of such other dyes is represented by formula



wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom or a lower alkyl group; each of R_2 and R_3, independently, represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group or a lower alkoxy group; R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, an acyl group or a lower alkyl group; R_5 represents a hydrogen atom~~,~~ or an optionally substituted lower alkyl group; Z represents a sulfur atom, an oxygen atom or a carbon atom substituted by two lower alkyl groups; n represents 1 or 2; and X^- represents an anion. --

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 21 and 22 (i.e., page 21, line 4 to page 22, line 3) with the following amended paragraph:

-- Other dyes (available from Molecular Probes,~~Inc.)that~~ Inc.) that may be employed include but are not limited to acridine homodimer, actinomycin D, 7-aminoactinomycin D (7-AAD), 9-amino-6-chloro-2-methoxyacridine (ACMA), BOBO-1, BOBO-3, BO-PRO-1, BO-PRO-3, 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI), dihydroethidium, 4',6-(diimidazolin-2-yl)-2-phenylindole, ethidium-acridine heterodimer, ethidium diazide, ethidium homodimer-1, ethidium homodimer-2, ethidium monoazide, hexidium iodide, hydroxystilbamidine, methanesulfonate, LDS 751, OilGreen ssDNA quantitation reagent, PicoGreen dsDNA quantitation reagent, PO-PO-1, PO-PO-3, PO-PRO-1, PO-PRO-3, SYTO 11 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 12 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 13 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 14 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 15 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 16 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 20 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 21 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 22 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 23 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 24 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 25 live-cell nucleic acid stain, SYTO 17 red fluorescent nucleic acid stain, SYTOX green nucleic acid stain, TO-PO-1,TO-PRO-3, TO-PRO-5, TO-TO-1, TO-TO-3, YO-PRO-1, YO-PRO-3, YO-YO-1, YO-YO-3, and the like. --

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 34 and 35 (i.e., page 34, line 25 to page 35, line 6) with the following amended paragraph:

-- First, a large number of the malaria-infected specimens, the % infections of which had been verified microscopically, were measured by the method of Example 1 above (hereinafter referred to as Method B), and the correlation between the % infection and the number of plots appearing in the ring form zone was obtained. The correlation is shown in Fig. 3. --

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 35 (i.e., lines 10-16) with the following amended paragraph:

-- Next, the specimen of a patient who had been verified to have no malaria was measured by the method described in Example 1 of Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 11-75892 (hereinafter referred to as Method A) and by Method B. The numbers of the plots in the ring form zones on the scattergrams were compared with each other. --